

December 4, 2006
Regular Meeting

Minutes

Members present

Brady Wooten- Chairman
Allen Sneed- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
D.C. Swaim- Commissioner

Others Present

Eric Williams-Interim County Manager
Melinda Vestal-Clerk to the Board
James Graham-County Attorney

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order. Attorney Graham had the invocation. The Board had the pledge.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board to amend the agenda to allow Bobby Todd to present some information. ***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Public Comments

There were none.

Minutes

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Manager position

There was no action taken

Economic development- incentive amendment

Bobby Todd, Economic Development Director, presented an amendment for the East Coast Wings assistance package. The original amount was \$7,500 and the package is being amended to \$5,000.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the amended assistance package for East Coast Wings. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioners- presentation to outgoing members

Mr. Williams presented accomplishment plaques to Commissioners Casstevens, Sneed and Swaim. He commended them all for their years of service. He read aloud the committees on which they served.

Commissioner Casstevens stated he was appointed by the Republican Party to fill the remaining term of the late Roger Evans. He stated he has tried to look after the citizens and children of Yadkin County. Commissioner Casstevens stated its been a pleasure serving Yadkin County.

Mr. Williams presented flowers for the wives of the outgoing Commissioners. Mr. Williams complimented Commissioner Casstevens on his humor, Commissioner Sneed on his preparedness and Commissioner Swaim's dignity and class.

Commissioner Sneed commented has made many friends. He appreciated the support he received while serving as Commissioner. He has tried to do his best for Yadkin County. He is pleased that he was a part of getting new EMS stations, water and sewer lines and additions for the schools.

Commissioner Swaim thanked the people for allowing him to serve; it has been an honor. He thanked the County employees for their dedication on providing services to the County. He thanked the new Commissioners for taking on the role as Commissioner and congratulated them on their new positions.

Chairman Wooten stated it has been a pleasure serving with Commissioners Casstevens, Swaim and Sneed. He thanked them for their service.

Commissioner Phillips stated it too has been a pleasure serving with these gentlemen and thanked them for their time and commitments.

Attorney Graham stated the role of a Commissioner is a thankless job; you are always on the firing line. He also commented that Commissioners only make about \$200 per month so this job is not for the money.

Swearing In Ceremony/ reorganization

Judge Jeanie Houston administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner-Elect Joel Cornelius, Chad Wagoner and Tommy Garner.

Commissioner Wooten nominated Tommy Garner for Chairman.

***Commissioner Wooten made a motion to close the nominations for Chairman. Motion died; lack of second.**

Commissioner Cornelius nominated Kim Phillips as Chairperson.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Garner seconded. Mr. Garner received two votes and Mrs. Phillips received three votes.**

Attorney Graham announced Kim Phillips as Chairperson by acclamation.

Commissioner Wagoner read a statement regarding politics and personal agendas; he then nominated Tommy Garner as Vice-Chairman

***Chair Phillips made the motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The vote was unanimous for Commissioner Garner as Vice Chairman.**

Chair Phillips called the meeting back to order.

Public comments

Allen Sneed, Yadkinville, wished the new Board success.

Leon Casstevens, Yadkinville, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He too wished the new Board well.

Finance-Audit

Edna Shore, Partner with The Daniel Professional Group, presented the financial statements for year ending June 30, 2006. She complimented the staff on their courtesy and willingness to assist her and her staff during the audit. She stated county financial statements are different from business financial statements. Ms. Shore stated in 2006 net assets increased \$1.2 million and cash increased \$6.2 million. She commented that the Enterprise Fund lost \$433,000 with the General Fund covering the losses.

Commissioner Wooten stated the audit process was very thorough and he thanked everyone for their service and the information provided was very helpful in making some recent decisions.

Ms. Shore welcomed calls from all Commissioners regarding any questions about the audit.

Mr. Williams suggested a face-to-face discussion with the new Board members, Ms. Shore and Ms. Church, Finance Officer.

Economic Development/ report/update

Mr. Todd reported on three new projects. They are currently marketing the UNIFI building. He discussed the new Tier Rate for Yadkin County which should open more doors for the County; Yadkin County is a Tier 2. Mr. Todd informed the Board that North Carolina has the largest wineries and of those, four wineries in Yadkin County are ranked in the top 25.

Mr. Todd requested a closed session. The Board stated they would call Mr. Todd back near the end of the meeting.

Chair Phillips called for a break.

Mr. Williams introduced Kim Bates as the new Planning and Development Director. He will start December 11th.

DOT- road petition

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the road petition for Hunts Paradise Road. Commissioner Garner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

NCACC- voting delegate

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to appoint Chair Phillips as the voting delegate for the NCACC Legislative Goals. Commissioner Garner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Resolution –Surplus Property

This item was tabled until the December 18th meeting.

Mapping/GIS- contract

John Bridgers, Land Records Supervisor, discussed ortho-photographs for the County.

Rachel Boone, GIS Coordinator, reviewed the proposals received and why Kucera was chosen.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to approve the contract with Kucera. Commissioner Cornelius seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner comments

Commissioner Wooten questioned if the joint meeting minutes with the Board of Education could be posted on the website.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about the loss in the Solid Waste Department.

Mr. Williams stated there are other options being reviewed.

Commissioner Wooten stated the Swan Creek by-pass has been moved up on the TIP thanks to the persistence of Yancy St. John.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about advertising and hiring a full time manager.

Chair Phillips stated Mr. Williams is doing a fine job. She suggested listing the job on the NCACC website for 30-45 days, choosing 3-5 candidates to interview and have the responses go to Attorney Graham.

***Chair Phillips made the motion to advertise the position of County Manager with the above guidelines. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Wooten inquired about the roof at the Ag building.

Mr. Williams stated he toured the building and the overall condition of the building is not good. He stated he wanted to review the bids and make sure they are the same. Mr. Williams stated a budget amendment would have to be done because there are not enough funds in public buildings.

Commissioner Wooten discussed the losses involved with Solid Waste.

Commissioner Wooten asked about reviewing the fees associated with planning and permitting. He suggested setting up a committee to review the fees and the fees for solid waste.

Commissioner Wooten strongly suggested removing the application download for the Virginia Daniels' spay /neuter program from our website.

Commissioner Wooten discussed the \$160,000 leftover from the Hwy 601 Project. He suggested using it to run lines to Courtney School area. Commissioner Wooten stated there is a business near the school and he would like Mr. Darden to do a preliminary study.

Chair Phillips stated the EDA funds are for economic development projects. She agreed the school needs water. She suggested running a line to J.S. Myers on Old Stage Road.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about Loflin.

Commissioner Wooten inquired about the r-o-w for the Hwy 21 Project.

Ms. Vestal stated it has been suggested to go door-to-door with a Notary.

Mr. Williams stated it has also been suggested to send out a second letter.

Commissioner Wooten discussed the water/sewer contract with the Town of Yadkinville.

Mr. Williams stated the contract does not cover everything; there are some deficiencies. He discussed the waterline on Hwy 601 and how there are few connections. The Town of Yadkinville is maintaining the waterlines by dumping the water. The Inter-Local Agreements with the Towns should be consistent when using their utilities.

Commissioner Wooten stated the agreement with the Town of Jonesville is a good agreement for both the Town and the County.

***Commissioner Wooten made a motion to move forward with hiring a builder, an Engineer and/or professionals to do repairs or renovations to bring the jail up to DHHS standards. Commissioner Garner seconded.**

The Board discussed the figures to bring the current jail up to standards; estimated cost \$243,000.

Chair Phillips cautioned the Board that the Judge is looking for the Board to proceed with the motion to build a new jail. She suggested waiting until after the meeting with the Judge to see what he says. She stated the next step would be to hire an Architect.

Commissioner Wooten withdrew his motion. Commissioner Garner withdrew his second.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to go with a modular system or metal structure for \$3 million or less to meet DHHS standards. Commissioner Garner seconded.**

The Board discussed a modular system.

Chair Phillips once again stated to wait until the meeting with Judge Craig before taking any further action.

Commissioner Wagoner discussed the liabilities associated with housing inmates in other counties.

Commissioner Cornelius stated he is concerned with the costs associated with the jail. He suggested tabling the jail issue until after the meeting with Judge Craig.

Commissioner Wooten withdrew his motion. Commissioner Garner withdrew his second.

Commissioner Wooten suggested moving forward with repairing the jail to meet DHHS standards, purchase a 25 acre tract and move forward with proper planning for multiple offices.

***Commissioner Wooten made a motion to put a bond issue before the citizens with three parts; Part 1- to repair/renovate the old jail with the amount to be determined, Part 2- replace old jail with a steel building or modulars at a cost of \$3 million or less, Part 3- replace old jail with a 62 bed facility as proposed from Solutions 4 Local Government. He stated the citizens should decide what they want to pay for. Motion died; lack of second.**

Commissioner Wooten asked if the Judge could tell the Board to build a new jail.

Attorney Graham stated a Judge may be compelled to issue an order if the jail does not meet the standards issued; this is not a black and white issue.

Commissioner Wooten requested to go in closed session.

Commissioner Cornelius discussed the County's website. ***Commissioner Cornelius made a motion to direct Mr. Williams to review and update the County's website. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Garner stated the website should educate the people with the ins and outs of the actions of Yadkin County. Commissioner Garner also stated the Judge does not care what the people of the county think in regards to the jail.

Commissioner Wooten stated the citizens of the County have the right to decide on what actions to take regarding the jail since they are the ones to paying. The Jail Committee has presented no reports to the Board of Commissioner. The Jail Committee needs to meet with the Board of Commissioners.

Chair Phillip stated Ken Alley, Chairman, Board of Elections, has informed her that the old voting machines are obsolete and the State recommends throwing them out. ***Chair Phillips made the motion to dispose of the old voting machines. Commissioner Cornelius seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Chair Phillips thanked the former Board members for their services to Yadkin County.

Chair Phillips informed the other Board members about the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, March 3-7, 2007.

Chair Phillips reminded the Board that there would be ribbon cuttings at Forbush and Starmount High Schools to officially open the new Science and Technology buildings.

Chair Phillips asked Commissioner Wooten to form a sub-committee with another Commissioner to work on the issues relating to Solid Waste.

Chair Phillips suggested meeting with the Board of Adjustments and the Planning Board in January.

Chair Phillips called for a break,

Manager comments

Mr. Williams asked that a Commissioner be appointed to the Crossroads Mental Health Board, DSS, Smart Start and Yadkin Health Alliance.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to appoint Chad Wagoner to the Crossroads Mental Health Board. Commissioner Garner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Garner made the motion to appoint Joel Cornelius to the DSS Board. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to appoint Joel Cornelius to the Smart Start Board. Commissioner Garner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Williams informed the Board that both meetings in January fall on holidays.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to move the 1st and 3rd Monday meetings in January to the 2nd and 16th which are on the following Tuesdays. Commissioner Cornelius seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to appoint Chad Wagoner to the Yadkin Health Alliance. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Williams introduced Kim Cain, United Way Coordinator.

Ms. Cain stated the participation in the United Way Campaign increased this year; \$5349-60 employees (2005) and \$6084-65 employees (2006).

Dale Trivette, Emergency Director, stated that on December 12th representatives from the State DEM Office will be visiting Yadkin County to look at the new EMS Command Center which was bought with Homeland Security Funds. Mr. Trivette invited the Board and Mr. Williams to come by to look at the Command Center.

Mr. Williams reminded the Board of the Employee Christmas Lunch on December 13th from 12:00-2:00 at Union Cross Family Center.

Closed Session

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to go in closed session per G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)(4). Commissioner Garner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Cornelius made the motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Comments

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to have an Attorney appointed for him to represent his position on the jail. Motion died; lack of second.**

Adjournment

***Commissioner Cornelius made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wagoner seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Melinda Vestal, CMC
Clerk to the Board